



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 6, 1995

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Site Inspection, Silver Bell Mining Company, Silver Bell Mine, S/049/027, Utah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 3, 1995
Time of Inspection: 11:45 a.m.
Conditions: Cool, breezy and clear
Participants: Tony Gallegos, and Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To evaluate site and see if variance requests are warranted

Access to this site is made from the American Fork Highway, headed up towards Tibble Fork. The mine access road is 4.3 miles from where you leave the pavement (right turn) at the upper end of the reservoir.

This is a old mine site that has been abandoned some time ago. Mr. Proctor expressed interest in re-opening the mine and requested variances for topsoil handling. It appears that someone has recently (this year) been digging on the old dumps (perhaps to take bulk samples). The mine site is located on the side of the canyon in an area that is near angle of repose slope. There is little vegetation (10 - 15% cover) on the adjacent undisturbed areas. Rock outcrops and fragments (talus) make up the bulk of surface materials. Topsoil is all but non-existent and what was observed would not be feasible to salvage due to the rockiness of the area and safety concerns. Therefore, the requested topsoil handling variances can be approved.

Vegetation species that were noted growing adjacent to the site were lewis flax, a penstemon species, an aster, mountain lover, yarrow, an erigeron species, limber pine, alpine fir, indian paintbrush, woody cinquefoil, meadow rue, wyethia species, hounds tongue, thistle, snowberry, mountain lupine, festuca sp. and Oregon grape. Wax currant and a willow species.

Current disturbance at this site is less than 1 acre. While topsoil is virtually nonexistent, there is quite a bit of fines (subsoil type material) in the dumps. Accessible portions of the dumps (pads) should be ripped and seeded at the time of reclamation. dump slopes should be broadcast seeded.

Several photos were taken to document site conditions.

jb

cc: Don Proctor, Operator
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